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We will place on sale 750 of the newest shapes in Hemp, Milan and fancy Braid Straw Hats, regular prices from \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. SALE PRICE 89c.

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BULLARD'S

Broad St. and Railroad Ave., Bridgeport.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

The Wednesday Musical club closed a season of exceptionally splendid concerts with a particularly enjoyable members' musicale held at 3:30 this afternoon in the First M. E. church. Under the direction of Mrs. William H. Connelley, Jr., an enjoyable program had been arranged. Dr. George Gow of Vassar college, who was to have given his concluding lecture before the club, was unable to be present because of illness, but the interesting musicale made up in part for his absence.

Mrs. Lillian Fairchild of Laurel Beach entertained at bridge this afternoon for Miss Helen C. Havens, of 2239 Main street, who will be married to Howard L. Stone on Saturday, May 5. Miss Alice E. Curtis of Main street, Stratford, will give a luncheon at her home on Friday for Miss Havens, who is to be the bride.

Dr. Daniel C. Patterson of this city, who will marry Miss Marion P. Gibney of this city and New York, Saturday, will be attended by his brother, Arthur H. Patterson, as best man. His ushers will include Dr. Dorland Smith, Dr. H. LeBaron Peters, Robert Gibney, brother of Miss Gibney, and Wilmer F. Wheeler, a son of this city and Loring Hubbell and Charles M. Young of New York.

The engagement is announced of Miss Helen May Fox, daughter of Mrs. Sarah Grant Fox of 779 Fairfield avenue, to Louis Myron Pawlett, of the George B. Wuestefeld Co. The wedding will take place early in May.

BIRTH—STEINWALD

The wedding of Miss Gertrude Steinwald of Norwalk and Robert Arthur Burt, of 434 East Main St., this city, which took place at 5:30 p. m. Thursday at the home of the bride's parents in South Main street, Norwalk, is of interest to many in this city. Rev. James Benson, pastor of the Grace Episcopal church of that town, performed the ceremony in the presence of a large number of guests. Miss Steinwald's gown had a patriotic combination of colors, red, white and blue, predominating. Miss Edna Burt of this city, sister of the bridegroom was maid of honor and Frank Burt, a brother, was best man. Mrs. John W. Thies of Norwalk played nuptial music during the ceremony and at the reception which followed it. Mr. and Mrs. Burt are spending their honeymoon in Washington, D. C. They will reside in this city when they return.

THE WEATHER

New Haven, April 25—For New Haven and vicinity: Fair tonight probably followed by showers in early morning or on Thursday.

Connecticut: Fair tonight, probably followed by rain in early morning or on Thursday; fresh, north shifting to east wind.

The area of high pressure which was central over the lake region yesterday morning is now central over northern New England. It is producing pleasant weather with low temperatures in the northeastern districts. The disturbance which was central over Missouri yesterday morning is now central over northern Illinois. It has caused unsettled, showery weather during the last 24 hours from Oklahoma eastward to Pennsylvania. Showers were also reported from the middle Atlantic coast. The temperatures are low in all the northern districts from Montana to Maine. Conditions favor for this vicinity for the week with low temperatures, followed on Thursday by increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer.

ELLIOTT, PRESENTING RESIGNATION, DECLARES OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE OF NEW HAVEN ROAD IS MUCH BRIGHTER

New York, April 25—In presenting his resignation as president of the New Haven Road, at a meeting of the directors here yesterday, Howard Elliott made the following statement: "With much regret I have come to the conclusion that it is for the best interest of my family and myself to relieve myself of the work incident to the executive management of the New Haven Road and its associated properties."

	1913	1916
Operating revenue	\$72,556,585.62	\$85,640,365.10
Operating income	16,715,056.00	25,125,268.54
Ratio of operating expenses to operating income	71.78%	66.92%

"I considered taking this step a year ago, but felt that the work of reorganizing the staff of the company had not gone far enough to justify me in retiring."

"Nearly four years ago the directors of the company asked me to come to New England and help adjust a very complicated transportation situation. I wanted to take up the work because it involved interesting railroad and economic problems; because I am a believer in New England and its future, and because of personal interests in New England."

"The actual conditions surrounding the New Haven and the obstacles to its progress that developed shortly after I came were unusual, unexpected and unforeseen. The attitude of the federal government, resulting in a complete dissolution of the New Haven system; the declaring illegal by the Massachusetts courts of a plan which guaranteed \$67,500,000 in cash to pay floating debts and make needed improvements; the numerous investigations of the company's affairs; the very serious business depression beginning early in 1914 and lasting until the summer of 1915; the European war and the disturbed industrial conditions, all combined to complicate the work to be done, and to delay obtaining the results desired in the interest of the public, security holders and the employees. The total public opinion was excited and adverse to the company."

"The directors, officers and the employees, and the bankers, who have helped to carry the floating debts, have all worked diligently and much has been accomplished in adjusting the affairs of the company and laying a foundation upon which to build."

"After nearly a year of negotiation with the Department of Justice an agreement was made in 1914 which took from the control of the company a very large amount of its property. This agreement with the government was entered into by the company to save it, and changed the entire situation."

"The failure of the plan to issue \$67,500,000 convertible debentures left the company confronted with a floating debt of nearly \$50,000,000 and no means of meeting it except by short-term notes. The floating debt at one time was nearly \$56,000,000 but it has been reduced in the last three years to \$45,000,000 and notes have just been sold for \$45,000,000 to care for that indebtedness and leave \$2,000,000 for improvements."

"Earnest efforts have been continuing for several years to have laws affecting the company in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island made harmonious, and there is a good chance of success this spring. Such legislation should permit the adoption of a plan for caring for the floating debt which hangs like a millstone about the neck of the company."

"How serious the depression of business and the demoralized condition of the affairs of the company were in 1914 is evidenced by the fact that for the year ending June 30, 1914 the company had only \$25,000 left after paying expenses, taxes and charges. For the three calendar years ending December 31, 1914, 1915 and 1916, the balance above fixed charges was:

	1914	1915	1916
	\$ 182,960.36	4,559,139.78	5,554,977.88

"The various departments have been re-organized and strengthened, and new methods have been and are being introduced. Some of the important problems of the company now are:

"1. To adopt a plan for handling its floating debt, by obtaining new capital for improvements, considering that the stockholders should realize that they are the owners of the property and ought to come to its rescue by furnishing some new capital and not rely indefinitely upon banks and temporary loans which create a very uncertain and dangerous situation."

"2. To dispose of the so-called 'outside properties' (which must be sold under Federal Decree) at a minimum loss, and use that money for improvements or paying debts."

"3. To obtain rates—freight, passenger, mail and express—that will enable the company to meet the steadily increasing wages and the increasing prices of materials, and the serious conditions imposed by the war."

"4. To perfect every detail of management so as to save the maximum amount of money."

"5. To spend from earnings or from new capital enough money during the next five years to modernize that plant and make it adequate to the needs of New England—to provide better working conditions resulting in substantial return to the shareholders."

"The property is a wonderful one and its success now depends very largely upon the willingness of the stockholders to help pay its debts and of the public to pay rates sufficient to meet the rising expenses and have enough left with which to make improvements and to improve the credit of the company; also, upon the conditions that will result from the entrance of the United States into the World War. The burdens on this country because of this war are not yet realized to the extent that they should be. Everyone will have to help—there must be self-denial—much inconvenience and probably some suffering. The transportation systems of the country will, without doubt, have to give less service along some lines so as to conserve fuel, equipment and men for war purposes, and doubtless travellers and shippers will be willing to accept the situation."

"The property is in better condition today than for several years past, and a comprehensive plan of improvement has been made and much of the work is going on. \$18,258,000 has been spent for equipment, additions and improvements and the protection of subordinate properties since June 30, 1914. The operating results of the New Haven and Central New England roads, which are managed as one property, compare for the years ending December 31, 1913 and 1916 as follows:

	1913	1916
Operating revenue	\$72,556,585.62	\$85,640,365.10
Operating income	16,715,056.00	25,125,268.54
Ratio of operating expenses to operating income	71.78%	66.92%

"In 1916 a greater volume of business could have been handled if the facilities of the company had been better in the matter of tracks, terminals and powerful locomotives, and if the facilities of the receivers of freight had been such that loading and unloading of cars could have been made without delay."

"The results for the three months ending March 31, 1917, show an increase in gross revenues of \$1,625,000 and in net of about \$1,000,000. Gross revenues for April are showing good increases. Increases in net cannot be continued unless substantial increases in rates are permitted, because the company is beginning to feel the effect of the increased wages and prices of material, which effect will be cumulative and amount to large sums."

"Public opinion is much more favorable to the company than four years ago, and the relations of the company to the state and federal governments are harmonious and co-operative."

"Feeling the need of an occupation that will permit me a little more time for my family and myself, and the necessity of less severe work after nearly 37 years of almost continuous service, I have asked to be relieved of the work and responsibility with which I have been burdened for nearly four years."

"I have given of my best in an effort to solve the company's problems. I feel that much has been accomplished, and I hope to be of some assistance in the future."

"I shall remain a director as long as desired and help in any way I can about the financial plan, the sale of the 'outside properties', the general policy of the company, and will advise with the officers as frequently as desired by them."

"As a member of the committee of Five Railway executives appointed at the request of the national council of defense, I shall endeavor to help obtain the necessary fuel, food and supplies."

"I want to express my thanks to the many men in the service, officers and employees, who have worked hard and loyally to help carry the company along up to the present time—to the public service commissions that have been helpful, and to the stockholders in pointing out the great necessity of rehabilitating the company in the interest of New England, and to many public bodies and patrons of the road."

Sketch of Career of New President

The Smith-Murray Co.

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ANOTHER DAY OF OUR 25 CENT SALE!

Offering Spring and Summer Merchandise at Lower Prices

Another day of splendid opportunities to save! The second day has filled this store to overflowing with throngs of busy shoppers, all realizing that here are wonderful bargains to be had for 25 cents! Green tags point everywhere to savings—tables and counters piled with dependable and worthy merchandise, such as

Yard Goods of all kinds, Upholstery Goods, Hosiery and Underwear for Men, Women and Children, Men's Furnishings, Muslin Underwear, Men's and Women's Handkerchiefs, Waists, Petticoats and Kimonos, Laces and Embroideries, Notions, Leather Goods and Women's Neckwear.

Come and See What

25 Cents

Will Buy Here

The Bargains Will Surely Attract You!

The Smith-Murray Co.

Andrew Pellath and Miss Gallagher Wed

In the presence of many relatives and friends Miss Mary L. Gallagher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gallagher of 45 Scofield avenue became the bride of Andrew Pellath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pellath of 142 Milne street, at 8 o'clock this morning, at St. Peter's R. C. church.

Rev. John F. Ryan, a native of the city and a life long friend of the bride, solemnized the marriage and sang the nuptial mass. Miss Bessie Gallagher, sister of the bride, and Charles Fitzgerald attended the principals. The bride was most becomingly gowned in ivory white crepe de chine with a well trimmed veil and orange blossoms. She carried a corsage of white roses. The bridesmaid was attired in a gown of pink crepe de chine. She wore a gray hat trimmed with pink and carried a corsage of pink roses.

The church was artistically decorated for the occasion. The music of the mass was under the direction of Mrs. J. Kennedy. As the bridal party were entering the edifice Lohengrin's wedding march was played. During the mass "O Promise Me," "Praeludium" and "A Perfect Day" were played on the organ. The wedding march from Mendelssohn was rendered as the bridal party were leaving the church.

Relatives from New York, Detroit, Springfield and Brooklyn were present. Following the ceremony the bridal party, relatives and intimate friends of the family returned to the home of the bride's parents where a wedding breakfast was served. Early this afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Pellath left on a three weeks' honeymoon trip through the South. On their return they will take up their residence at Riverside Drive, Fairfield, where the bridegroom has fitted up a cozy home for his bride. Both persons were the recipients of many beautiful gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Pellath have a large acquaintance throughout the city. She was formerly employed in the office of the record department of the American Graphophone Co. Mr. Pellath is in the employ of the New Haven railroad.

ASKS \$35 A WEEK FROM HUSBAND'S ESTATE.

Marie Aurilio, widow of Samuel Aurilio, has asked their robe court to allow her \$35 a week from her husband's estate. He conducted a saloon in Pembroke street and died recently from injuries received in a fall from a motor truck. Besides his widow four boys and five girls whose ages range from 1 to 20 years, survive him. Walter Anderson has been appointed administrator of the estate of Paul J. Anderson, who formerly conducted a saloon in Main street. Besides the saloon business the decedent had some \$600 in the bank. Christopher A. LaCroix and William J. Barrett were named appraisers.

Newspaper Publishers Open Big Convention

New York, April 25—The annual convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' association opened here this morning. A discussion of news print paper is the principal event on the afternoon program.

The reorganized board of directors of the Associated Press met this morning to elect officers and the executive committee for the ensuing year, thereby concluding the business of that organization. At the annual meeting yesterday a resolution was adopted pledging support to the executives of the government in carrying out the war.

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